



## Independent Electrical Contractors of New England, Inc.

TO: The Honorable Tom Colapietro and Rep. Jim Shapiro  
Members of the General Law Committee

From: Lisa Hutner, Executive Director

Date: February 23, 2010

**Re: SB-185, An Act Concerning Advertising by Nonlicensed  
Tradespersons**

The Independent Electrical Contractors of New England (IEC-NE) **supports SB-185**, which tightens up the current law to impose penalties against individuals who hold themselves out in advertisements as a licensed tradesperson but do not hold such license.

Unfortunately, many people advertise in the yellow pages or in newspapers that they can do electrical work but come to find out, those individuals do not have an electrical license. Although licensed electricians and other skilled trades are required to include their license number on their truck, letterhead, advertisements, etc. the law does not specifically speak to situations where someone who is not licensed advertises that they can perform certain work.

This bill corrects this situation and protects consumers by prohibiting unlicensed individuals from advertising their services in ways that could mislead the public into thinking that they are licensed. Many other states already have laws on the books which prohibit such advertisements.

*The Independent Electrical Contractors of New England is the premier trade association representing Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island independent electrical contractors aggressively working with the industry to establish a free environment for merit shop -- a philosophy that promotes the concept of free enterprise, open competition and economic opportunity for all.*

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